

DISPATCH		CLASSIFICATION S E C R E T	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO. EGMA-7000 61008
TO INFO	Chief of Station, Germany EE; C/KUWOLF		HEADQUARTERS FILE NO. []
FROM	for Chief, CACROZE, Munich (B)	DATE 11 January 1963	
SUBJECT	CACROZE/CAMOG/CART, [] / OPERATIONS LfV Bavaria Name Trace Request - Ladislav NIZNANSKY		RE: "43-3" - (CHECK "X" ONE)
ACTION REQUIRED	COS/G Traces	XX	MARKED FOR INDEXING NO INDEXING REQUIRED INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ. DESK ONLY

REFERENCE(S)

1. Forwarded herewith for COS/G traces is an LfV Bavaria Name Trace Request (OCA/LfV 62-1221).

2. Munich files contain the information that Subject is an employee of RFE and suggest the LfV contact RFE for information.

3. FYI: The LfV queried RFE regarding Subject. RFE gave the LfV basic information on the trial and his RFE employment and will, when completed, supply Subject's own statement regarding the trial charges. In addition, the following documents are carded to Subject in MOB files; however, the documents are not available in MOB:

EGMA-18806, 20 Jan 56
EGMA-24368, 10 Dec 56
EGMA-29554, 29 Oct 57
EGMA-38019, 21 Oct 58
MUNI-1146, 26 Nov 58
EGOA-2048, 17 Nov 58

CIC Trace Reply, 19 Nov 58
MUNI-1805, 5 Jan 59
MUNI-1834, 7 Jan 59
VIEN-4282, 8 Jan 59
EGMA-44120, 11 Aug 59
EGMA-47368, 12 Feb 60 (Att. A)

4. COS/G: Please indicate in your reply what may be passed to the LfV.

Attachment:
LfV Trace Request

Distribution:
2 - COS/G, w/att
1 - EE w/att
1 - C/KUWOLF, w/att

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2004 2005

GROUP 1 - Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

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ATTACHMENT TO ECMA

TRANSLATION

No. 2747
20 November 1962
CSA/LFV 62-1221

SUBJECT: MIKHAIL V. Ladislav,
born on 24 October 1917 in Latis, USSR,
residence: Chastomirova 14, Munich

INCLOSURE: GTERA report (translation)

According to a report dated 12 November 1962, published by the Czechoslovak news agency OTERA, fourteen persons, Slovaks, accused of having fought on the German side against the partisans in Slovakia in 1941/42, were on trial in Bratislava/Slovakia on 12 November 1962. Mentioned as the principal figure of the trial is SUBJECT who is employed with "Radio Free Europe" in Munich and is being tried in absentia. According to the OTERA report, the Czech Foreign Ministry has requested Federal Republic authorities in an effort to have SUBJECT extradited to the GDR.

Confidential information available to this office indicated that in 1944 SUBJECT allegedly deserted the Slovak Order (Slovak) and joined the latter's Slovak units with the units of the partisans. As a partisan captain, he allegedly was taken prisoner by the Germans and later became, on the German side, the leader of Slovak units attached to the German Wehrmacht. Finally he rejoined the partisans and became a major in the Czechoslovak army after the end of the war.

The LFV requests to be furnished all information available in regard to SUBJECT.



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ENCLOSURE TO GSA/LIT 62-1221

TRANSLATION

BRATISLAVA: Public Trial of 14 Fascists begins in Baniska Bystrica

Bratislava, 12 November 1962 -

In Baniska Bystrica, in Central Slovakia, the trial began today of a group of fourteen fascists who attacked, terrorized and murdered partisans and civilians in the central and western part of Slovakia in 1944 and 1945.

The more than 500 victims of the fascist terror group (and were killed as partisans) included also American, French, Soviet and Hungarian partisans who had taken part in the national uprising in Slovakia, as well as members of the Anglo-American Military Mission.

The terroristic group was led by Ladislav NEMANSKY who was born on 21 October 1917 in Latis, district of Zadar in Slovakia. He played the leading role and took active part in most of these murders, e.g., in the "liquidation" of the Anglo-American Military Mission.

At the time NEMANSKY was deputy chief of the Evaluation Service of "Radio Free Europe" in Munich, and he still is one of the prominent officials of this radio station.

The Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry has contacted the responsible authorities in the Federal Republic of Germany and has requested that NEMANSKY, who lived in Munich, Grosseallee 14/7, be extradited for the trial in Czechoslovakia.

The defendants, tried by the Baniska Bystrica District Court, were: Martin KALICKY (born 1919); Bartolomej GURSKY (born 1923); Oldrich VITKAVEL (born 1921); Villem STYLA (born 1925); Jan STANISLAV (born 1925); Jan HOLNAR (born 1922); Martin LAJTHA (born 1922); Milan VRIGAN (born 1926); Ladislav KUBELA (born 1920); Frantisek KANA-SALAS (born 1924); Jan NEBAY (born 1923); Ernest GAFKA (born 1924); and Jan NEBASKY (born 1923).

Ladislav NEMANSKY (born 1917), who is a Slovak national and went to the Federal Republic of Germany in 1948, is tried in absentia.

"Eidolwies" was the cover name of this special unit of Hitler's espionage organization, which was placed under the control of the German Army Staff in Slovakia. The members of the unit were adventurers and murderers from various European countries. The unit, which was part of the biggest German espionage and sabotage organization "Brandenburg", was to carry out anti-partisan and sabotage activities.

These activities were extended to almost all European countries. The infamous battalion "Nachtigall", which under the "ideal leadership" of Theodor KORBIAENDER committed large-scale murder among the Ukrainian intelligentsia in Lwow, was a subordinate unit of the "Brandenburg" organization.

In addition to the commander, Major Count ERN-ROSENSTERN, and 23 German officers, the "Eidolwies" unit consisted of hundreds of persons of various

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nationalities, including prisoners of war who had been promised various advantages.

The mission of the "Edelweiss" unit was, to destroy the partisan movement by trickery and deception. Disguised as partisans, with false letters of commendation, they infiltrated the partisan units, especially in the vicinity of Bratislava (Central Slovakia) and near Kremnica, Slovakia, and other areas.

The Slovak branch of the "Edelweiss" unit was organized during a partisan campaign in the first half of 1944. Their target was the Slovak branch, led by Captain Jan BALINT, hero of the Soviet Union, who had been declared a hero of the Soviet Union.

After a clash near the Považský-svit the terrorists killed, or injured, several partisans, including three women, and then they killed a man and a woman. After the liberation, the bodies of seven of the prisoners were found in mass graves in the vicinity of Kremnica, Slovakia.

On 25 December 1944, after having completed a number of subversive missions in the course of which numerous partisans and civilians were killed, the Slovak "Edelweiss" branch stopped its activity by an attack on members of the Anglo-American Military Mission near Velky Bok, in the vicinity of Polonka.

Members of the Edelweiss unit (which was led by NIEBANSKY) surrounded the house where the fifteen members of the Anglo-American Mission were staying. They beat up the members of the mission, robbed them and set the house afire. Then, they turned the members of the mission over to the Nazi "Security Service" in Bratislava. Eight of the prisoners were murdered in the Mauthausen concentration camp in January 1945. For this action, Count TRUB, commander of the Edelweiss unit, received a personal letter of congratulation from SS-Reichsfuehrer Himmler.

In the course of the investigations additional brutal actions carried out by NIEBANSKY's terrorists, were revealed by the testimony of ill witnesses and substantiated by photographs and other material.

During an assault on partisans (in Martin's Hole) in March 1945 NIEBANSKY's unit attacked also the bunker of French partisans; one of them was killed, and three were turned over to the agency of the "Security Service" (SD) in Martin. In addition, six Soviet partisans were taken prisoners by NIEBANSKY's unit in the forest near Lyubka Nova Mesto; their fate could not be clarified.

One of the most brutal actions of the NIEBANSKY unit was the assault on the villages of Klak and Ostry Grun on 21 January 1945. Both villages were destroyed; 146 persons (including women and children) were killed "for supporting the partisans". On 7 February 1945 NIEBANSKY's "Edelweiss" unit murdered 13 persons of Jewish descent in the bunkers near the village of Keina. Among these victims there were three children.

In late February 1945 NIEBANSKY's unit captured a group of American pilots in the vicinity of Hluboka, district of Senica on the Myjava river. Although an intensive search was made, nothing has ever become known about the fate of these pilots.

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The writ of indictment, comprising about 26,000 words, was read by Martin KOVAC, Main Public Prosecutor in the Banika District, when the trial was opened.

The indictment states that in the course of the investigation all defendants confessed to having participated in the assaults, robberies and murders.

The defendants are responsible for the killing of at least 500 persons and for the capture and extradition to Hitler agencies of at least 600 persons, most of whom were also killed.

The trial in Banika District is expected to last about ten days. The Presiding Judge is Dr. Gustav KURAT.

DEFENDERS' BIOGRAPHY

PRAGUE, 12 November 1961 (UPI/REUTERS)

Radislav MICHANEK, former commander of the anti-partisan-terror unit "Kobras", is now leading a comfortable life, despite the fact that he is responsible for the death of hundreds of partisans and even unarmed civilians, adults and children, Slovaks and persons of other nationality, such as Englishmen, Americans, Frenchmen, Russians, and others.

Radislav MICHANEK, presently employed in a leading position in the main office of "Radio Free Europe" in Munich, lives at Gnastrasse 14/7, Munich.

He was born on 24 October 1917 in Latis, District of Gdov, Slovakia. In 1937 he left the Military Academy and became an Officer. He exercised this profession also during the period of the so-called "Slovak State".

In 1944 he became the commander of the Slovak branch of the German anti-partisan military unit "Kobras". He was in command of this unit from mid-December 1944 to May 1945 when he was taken prisoner on his flight to American military units.

The People's Court in Bratislava sentenced him to five years imprisonment, since at that time only a few of his crimes had become known. However, he fled to the West in 1948, before the verdict was officially pronounced.

From the records of the defense counsels and the testimony of witnesses it is obvious that MICHANEK was very active in the operations directed against partisans and unarmed civilians, that he personally tortured prisoners and ordered them killed in a very brutal manner.

He played an active role in the "liquidation" of the Anglo-American Military Mission in Velky Bok on 26 December 1944 and in the large-scale murder of the inhabitants and the destruction of the villages of Klok and Ostry Gran which, in his own words, were "to serve as a warning example of how the residents of each village in Slovakia will be treated if they assist the partisans".

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In addition, he "liquidated" a group of American parachutists and took part in many other actions. Disguised as a partisan (as, e.g., during actions in the vicinity of Lubina in Western Slovakia on 27 February 1943), he was brave enough to wear the decorations of murdered Soviet partisans.

For the consequent, active and independent completion of his missions as commander of the "Edelweiss" unit he was awarded the "Iron Cross".

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